

### ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

DCR5, a protein related to DAN (Differential-screening-selected gene Aberrative in Neuroblastoma) and related nucleic acids are provided. Included are natural DCR5 homologs from several species and proteins comprising a DCR5 domain having specific activity, particularly the ability to antagonize a bone morphogenetic protein. The proteins may be produced recombinantly from transformed host cells with the subject nucleic acids. Also provided are isolated hybridization probes and primers capable of specifically hybridizing with the disclosed genes, specific binding agents and methods of making and using the subject compositions.